

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-captioned divisional application as follows:

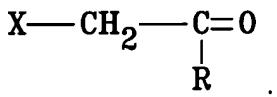
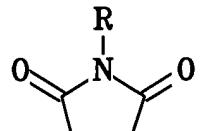
In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 21.

Please add the following new claims:

24 22. (NEW) A composition comprising an inactivated retrovirus, wherein the retrovirus is inactivated by contact with a compound selected from the group consisting of:

disulfides having the formula R-S-S-R;



alpha-halogenated ketones having the formula

hydrazides having the formula R-NH-NH-R;

nitric oxide and derivatives containing the NO group;

cupric ions and complexes containing Cu⁺²; and

ferric ions and complexes containing Fe⁺³;

wherein the compound is not a C-nitroso compound of the formula R-C-NO, and wherein R is any atom or molecule, and X is selected from the group consisting of F, I, Br and Cl, and wherein contacting said retrovirus with said compound inactivates said retrovirus.

25 23. (NEW) The composition of claim 22, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of: Tetramethylthiuram Disulfide, Tetraethylthiuram Disulfide, Tetraisopropylthiuram Disulfide, Tetrabutylthiuram Disulfide, Dicyclopentamethylenethiuram Disulfide, Isopropylxanthic Disulfide, O,O-Diethyl Dithiobis-(Thioformate), Benzoyl Disulfide, Benzoylmethyl Disulfide, Formamidine Disulfide 2HCl, 2-(Diethylamino)ethyl Disulfide, Aldrithiol-2, Aldrithiol-4, 2,2-Dithiobis(Ryridine N-Oxide), 6,6-Dithiodinicotinic Acid, 4-Methyl-2-Quinolyl Disulfide, 2-Quinolyl Disulfide, 2,2 Dithiobis(benzothiazole),